

Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River Council
Meeting Agenda
August 21, 2002

Call To Order 7:05 by Rick Coe

Approval of Minutes Motion Greg Julie

Old Business

- 1) - **Resolution 07-2002** - This Resolution supporting Senate Bill No. 1214 authorizing local review of dock construction or alteration was tabled from last month.
- 2) - Signage and Logo Update
- 3) - WMA #15 Update
- 4) - Hamilton Township Issue Update (zoning variance, closing of Hemlock Lane & planning board sub-committee information)
- 5) - Clean Communities Grants Update - Winslow Township
- 6) - Enforcement Issues (Letter to NJDEP Enforcement)

New Business

- 7) - Video for the Great Egg Harbor River
- 8) - River Administrator's Report

Public Portion

Adjournment

- 1) Letter to Sentors Res. 07-2002 Motion Approved
- 2) Members Letterhead on Disk - Gregg G.
- 3) ST is reorganizing DEP not granting a no-cost extension
\$250,000 left Could to fund Stockton's water quality report
Pinelands quality with fit GETHA Fresh water only
- 4) Folsom issued 2 letters of warning to Palace Pizza
- 5) Mr. Main reprogram the Winslow Grant 9/15 Girl Scouts + Boy Scouts
Motion Creed^{1st} Greg^{2nd}
- 6) Folsom area - letter to DEP NP will supposer trip for EPA,
DEP etc... 10/2 Meeting about permit circle process
- 7) is completed 20 copies will be made
- 8) New Slide / Atl. Co. New Panel Exhibits / Open to Public creed Greg

Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River

Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2002

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05PM by Rick Coe

Roll Call by Belinda Irizarry

Board Members in Attendance: Julie Akers, Rick Coe, Bill Egan, Greg Gregory, Andrew Mair, Joel Spiegel, Creed Pogue, Marc Thyrring

Board Members Absent: Robert Almeda, Bill Christman, Dick Colby, Keith Kendrex, Bill Zapisek, (Note: Robert Almeda, Bill Christman and Dick Colby provided advance notice of their inability to attend.)

Quorum Present: Yes

Others Present: Fred Akers (River Administrator), Belinda Irizarry (GEHWA Alternate), Mary Vavra (National Park Service),

Proceedings

Rick Coe stated that the meeting was advertised pursuant to the NJ Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Notices were sent to official publications for the River Council - The Courier Post and The Press of Atlantic City. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Fox Nature Center and the Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing. An Affidavit of publication from the Courier Post was received.

Approval of Minutes

Greg Gregory made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 17th River Council meeting. Motion was seconded by Julie Akers. Motion carried.

Old Business

Resolution 07-2002 - Resolution supporting Senate Bill No. 1214 authorizing local review of dock construction or alteration. Creed Pogue made a motion to approve the Resolution with the comment that there has not been any movement on the Bill since the July River Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. Andrew Mair suggested a friendly amendment to the motion suggesting that the River Council also send a letter to the League of Municipalities. The motion was seconded by Julie Akers. Roll Call Vote: Julie Akers - yes; Rick Coe - yes; Bill Egan - abstained; Greg Gregory - yes; Andrew Mair - yes; Joel Spiegel - yes; Creed Pogue - yes; Marc Thyrring - abstained. Motion carried. A letter of support will be sent to appropriate legislators along with the League of Municipalities

Signage and Logo Update - Greg Gregory stated that he would be obtaining a copy of the River Council logo on a disk so that we can begin to use it on official correspondence.

WMA #15 Update - Fred Akers stated that there is a possibility that Atlantic County may not receive a no-cost extension to their watershed management contract with NJDEP. Fred stated that NJDEP was; however, interested in continuing the funding of Richard Stockton College's water quality work in the watershed. A copy of Professor Jamie Cromarty's

report on water quality in the Great Egg Harbor River was distributed. Based on the research conducted, it appears that the protocols used in other areas of the Pinelands is appropriate for the Great Egg Harbor River. A discussion of water levels and changes in the river ensued. On a related note, Joe Maher (Atlantic County) sent a letter to a property owner along Mare Run to see if they would be interested in selling their property.

Hamilton Township Issue Update - Fred Akers provided updated information on the Hamilton Township Zoning Board meeting on July 22nd regarding the variance on 3.9 acres in the Pinelands Protection Area stating that the Board deferred making a decision until August 26th after additional information was provided by the applicant. On a related note, Fred and Julie reported on a town meeting where Hamilton Township officials closed Hemlock Avenue as an access point to the river. Hemlock Avenue will be closed in 30 days for all users. Two reasons cited for closing Hemlock Avenue was the need for a minimum of 50 acres for low-intensity recreation use based on existing zoning ordinances and liability.

Enforcement Issues - The Borough of Folsom's Zoning Officer sent two citations to Michael Cokenakas because of the illegal use of a property for commercial business along the Great Egg Harbor River. Mr. Cokenakas's property is not actually on the river and it appears that he is crossing state land to support his commercial livery business. Mr. Cokenakas stated that he has written permission to cross this property from the State. Mr. Cokenakas was asked by the Zoning Officer to produce this document. If Mr. Cokenakas fails to discontinue the illegal use, the Borough has threatened municipal court action. Fred and Julie Akers met with Lee Widjeskog from the State NJ Division of Fish and Game office to survey the property Mr. Cokenakas is using for commercial purposes to determine if the use is illegal and then respond accordingly.

Clean Communities Update - Andrew Mair updated river council members on the status of Winslow Township's Clean Communities grant for river cleanup provided by the River Council. The Township is interested in scheduling a clean up with the boy and girl scouts in September. Motion to approve proposed amendment by Creed Pogue and seconded by Greg Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Julie Akers, yes; Rick Coe - yes; Bill Egan - yes; Greg Gregory - yes; Andrew Mair, abstained; Joel Spiegel - yes; Creed Pogue - yes; Marc Thyrring - yes;
Motion carried. Andrew will submit a letter with an outline providing updated information.

Enforcement Letter to NJDEP - Mary Vavra updated members on the status of the enforcement issues in both Hamilton Township and the Borough of Folsom. The National Park Service sent a letter to NJDEP Enforcement with copies to the Pinelands Commission, NJDEP Land Use Regulation, USEPA, USCOE, and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance providing photographs of the alleged illegal construction. Joel Lynch, from NJDEP Enforcement, called to say that his office was looking into the matter and will get back to NPS on whether or not permits have been issued. Fred is also working with the Ted Korth, a lawyer recently hired by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Ted's first assignment is to work on the Great Egg Harbor River with the Pinelands Commission to gain answers to questions raised about development in the river corridor, one of which is what is the Pinelands definition of "low intensity" recreation.

New Business

Video for the river - Julie Akers stated that Greg Vizzi's video of the river has been released. The video was produced with a National Park Service grant and GEHWA will have a premiere of the movie on September 24th. Mary Vavra stated that the video was screened by NPS folk who had a very positive response. Julie asked for procedures for getting the video on cable. Julie will work with Greg Vizzi to secure additional 20 copies for the river council.

River Administrator's Report - Fred Akers provided updated information on a number of activities he has been involved in within the river corridor and watershed.

Exhibit Panel - George Flicker, Atlantic County Parks, provided a sample of the generic exhibit produced by Atlantic County for the river corridor. A copy of this exhibit is planned for Somers Point. Mary Vavra will explore the cost of reproducing the exhibits and report back to determine appropriate locations for such signage.

Hamilton Township River Patrol - Joel Spiegel had an opportunity to travel with the Hamilton Township River Patrol and provided River Council members an account of his observations. Joe also stated that Officer Hauseman offered to provide a status report on river patrol activities for the River Council. The status report by Officer Hauseman will be done first at the next meeting in September.

Public Portion.

Creed Pogue made a motion to open the meeting up to the public. The motion was seconded by Greg Gregory. No members of the public were in attendance. A motion to close the public portion was made by Creed Pogue and seconded by Greg Gregory.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

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